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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE:

SUBJECT Difference of Opinion within the German Communist Party

INFO. 14-18 March 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN  
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25X1A6a

1. During the absence of Pieck and Grotewohl in western Germany, Walter Ulbricht took the lead in formulating the SED's day-to-day policies. On the question of denazification, Ulbricht will soon go one step further and recommend full rehabilitation of active Nazi party members and former Wehrmacht officers as long as they have committed no crimes.

25X1A<sup>2</sup> reports that it has been announced in SED circles that the plebiscite on the form of the future German government is Molotov's idea. According to the same source, the CDU proposal for four-party consultations was inspired by the SED.

3. At a press conference 18 March 1947, after his return from the U.S. Zone, Grotewohl stated that the KPD in western Germany must accept two fundamental planks in the SED platform:

- a) The SED is a German party which fights in its own country for the interests of its own people.
- b) In Germany future developments must proceed in line with democratic principles.

25X1A Comment: This is a warning to the Communists from Grotewohl to stop talking about the dictatorship of the proletariat or the Soviet system.)

25X1A Comment: For further information on the difference of views between the KPD of the western zones and the SED of the Soviet Zone see 25X1A2g

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